

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 CU-02 AID-05 /037 W  
-----210135Z 116534 /73

R 201535Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9794

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 0715

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB  
SUBJ: USG LABOR PROGRAMS IN LATIN AMERICA

REFS: A) MEXICO 0229 '77; B) MEXICO STATE 1581 '77; C) AIDTO  
A-583 11/9/76

1. MEXICO HAS HAD NO AIFLD PROGRAM FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.  
AN UNOFFICIAL PRESENCE IS HOWEVER MANTAINED IN THE PERSON  
OF JOSE ESTRADA, THE ORIT TREASURER WHOSE SALARY AND  
MAINTENANCE BENEFITS ARE FUNDED BY AIFLD/WASHINGTON.

2. WHILE WE FORESEE NO ADVANTAGE IN THE DEVEOPMENT OF  
AN AIFLD PROGRAM SUCH AS EXISTS IN OTHER LA COUNTRIES,  
FUTURE EVENTS MIGHT OPEN SOME CONSIDERATION OF THE DESIRABILITY  
FOR A LIMITED BI-LATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN AIFLD AND THE  
MAJOR MEXICAN LABOR CONFEDERATION, THE CT. THIS LATTER  
ORGANIZATION HAS RECENTLY PURCHASED THE ORIT LABOR  
EDUCATION FACILITY AT CUERNAVACA AND HAS UNOFFICIALLY INDICATED  
THEY NEED AND WOULD WELCOME ASSISTANCE IN REORGANIZING IT  
AS A MAJOR CENTER FOR UPPER LEVEL EDUCATION FOR THEIR  
AFFILIATES' LEADERSHIP. EVER IF OUR MOST OPTIMISTIC HOPES  
FOR THE REVITALIZATION OF THE ORIT MATERIALIZE, THIS  
ORGANIZATION WILL BE UNABLE, FOR POLITICAL AND  
FINANCIAL REASONS TO EXTEND THIS ASSISTANCE TO THE  
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CTM. WE WILL RESERVE OUR OPINION ON THIS POSSIBILITY  
FOR LATER MORE APPROPRIATE TIME. WE FEEL IT IS  
TIMELY TO MENTION THIS POSSIBILITY IN PREFACE OF OUR  
REMARKS TO THE SUBJECT QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE ALEXANDER-  
HAMMOND REPORT.

3. THE FOLLOWING REMARKS ARE KEYED TO THE AA/LA ACTION

PAPER ON THE ALEXANDER/HAMMOND REPORT. "APPROVED" (OR "DISAPPROVED") INDICATES OUR POSITION WITH REGARD TO AID/W POSITION AND NOT OF THE ALEXANDER/HAMMOND RECOMMENDATIONS.

(1) APPROVED.

(2) APPROVED.

(3) APPROVED - WITHOUT QUESTION.

(4) APPROVED - WE BELIEVE THE OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF AIFLD HAS CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED THROUGHOUT THE YEARS AND THAT THEY HAVE DEVELOPED (FOR THE MOST PART) A CORPS OF HIGHLY QUALIFIED U.S. PERSONNEL SERVING IN THE FIELD. THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL TRADE SECRETARIAT PROGRAMS OFFER AN ADEQUATE BALANCE TO THE TOTAL EFFORT. WE SEE NO ALTERNATIVE TO AN AIFLD STEWARDSHIP OF THE LA LABOR EFFORT.

(4B) APPROVED.

(6) APPROVED. WE VIGOROUSLY AGREE THAT USG FUNDS SHOULD NOT BE UTILIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

(7A) APPROVED.

(7B) (1.) APPROVED.

(7B) (2.) APPROVED.

(7E) APPROVED. WE BELIEVE THAT THE MATTER OF AIFLD PRIVILEGES SHOULD BE SETTLED BETWEEN AIFLD AND THE RESPECTIVE EMBASSY PERSONNEL ON A COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY BASIS. IF THE GRANTING OF THESE PRIVILEGES IN A PARTICULAR COUNTRY CAUSES REAL HANDICAPS TOWARD THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE PROGRAM, THEY SHOULD BE WITHHELD; OTHERWISE THEY SHOULD BE EXTENDED.

(8) APPROVED.

(10) APPROVED.

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(12) APPROVED. ALTHOUGH EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION IN AIFLD HAS BEEN A FOCAL POINT OF ATTACK FROM AMONG AIFLD'S NATURAL ENEMIES OVER THE YEARS, WE FEEL REASONABLY SURE THE ATTACKS WOULD CONTINUE EVEN IF EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION WAS ELIMINATED. SINCE WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT ADVANTAGES EMPLOYERS BRING TO THE RELATIONSHIP, WE ARE IN A POOR POSITION TO EVALUATE WHETHER THEIR PRESENCE IS WORTH WEATHERING THE CRITICISM.

BASICALLY THIS IS A MATTER WHICH AIFLD MUST DECIDE.

(16) WE CAN NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE TOTAL AIFLD FUNDING LEVEL SHOULD BE DETERMINED BY TOTALLING THE DESIRABLE OR NEEDED LEVEL OF THE COMPONENT COUNTRY PROGRAMS. ANNUALLY INCREASING OPERATING COSTS WOULD INDICATE SOME MODEST INCREASE IF PROGRAMING LEVELS ARE MAINTAINED.

(19) WE ARE NOT SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR WITH THE IAF OPERATION TO FORM AN INTELLIGENT OPINION.

(20) WE WOULD AGREE THAT A REVITALIZED ORIT IS DESIRABLE AND COULD MOST PROBABLY EFFECTIVELY UTILIZE FUNDS IN ADDITION TO THOSE GENERATED THROUGH AFFILIATE PER-

CAPITA DUES; BUT WOULD PREFER TO RESERVE JUDGEMENT ON THIS ONE UNTIL WE KNOW MORE ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE ASSISTANCE. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WHICH IS IDENTIFIABLE AS USG WOULD SUBJECT THE ORGANIZATION TO CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM AND POSSIBLY JEOPARDIZE THEIR REINCARNATION. WE WOULD PREFER TO SEE THIS ASSISTANCE COME FROM THE AFL-CIO OR OTHER PRIVATE SOURCES.

WE AGREE WITH THE AID/W POSITION ON "NON-ISSUES"

(7C), (9), (11) AND (15).

WE GENERALLY AGREE WITH STATEMENTS UNDER "ISSUES FOR DECISION BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS", BUT WOULD SUGGEST THAT EFFORTS DESCRIBED IN NUMBER 17 BE CONFINED TO THE "INTERESTED LEADERS" OF CLAT ORGANIZATION AND PRECLUDE ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH CLAT OR THEIR AFFILIATES.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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